

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The number of claims was 19 and as a result of this amendment 20 claims appear in this application. Claims 1, 9, 10, 12-15 are amended, claim 11 is cancelled and new claims 20 and 21 are added.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 USC 112 as being incomplete and unclear. The Examiner's rejection of claim 9 is overcome by amended claim 9 in which a missing word "through" is added between "the shaft extending" and "the aperture".

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 10-15 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Leone 3,990,814. The Examiner has also admitted that his interpretation of Leone depends on that the prior art is in a condition that the nose cone is not attached during initial assembly (see page 3, lines 13-15 of the Office Action). Therefore, independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to further add the limitation that the nose cone is mounted to the plate (or the member).

Dependent claims 2-5 and 11-15 depend directly or indirectly from respective amended independent claims 1 and 10, standing together for patentability with the respective independent claims, and are also allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 4-5 and 10-15 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Staats 1,878,907, provided that Staats is in a state of partial disassembly, with nose cone unmounted.

For the reasons set forth above in the discussion of Leone, amended independent claims 1 and 10 and their dependent claims are allowable over Staats, and therefore the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-2, 4-5 and 10-15 is traversed.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C § 103

In response to the Examiner's advice regarding the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56, the Applicant confirms that the present invention defined in all the claims is commonly owned by the joint inventors at the time of invention.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6-7 under 35 USC 103(a) on the grounds of obviousness over Leone 3,990,814 in view of Rosan 2,68,5,320. Claims 6-7 which depend from amended independent claim 1, are allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a) on the grounds of obviousness over Leone in view of either Osawa 5,033,923 or Nakanura 5,235,228. Claim 8 which depends directly from amended independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's statement that claims 16-19 are allowed.

Applicant also gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's statement regarding the allowability of claim 9.

New Claims

Claims 20 and 21 are added, which are supported by the disclosure and the drawings (see Figure 1).

Claim 11 has been cancelled.

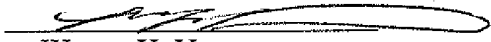
No new matter has been added.

If any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including any fees required for an

extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-5113.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for immediate allowance. Favourable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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